

Potential and Central Forms of Tourism in 21 Regions of Slovakia

Importance and development priorities of regions

The following previews list short characteristics of individual regions in terms of their current state, development possibilities and specific needs. The previews include a list of the most important destinations in the individual regions, the infrastructure that needs to be completed and the anticipated environmental impacts on tourism in the region. These lists are not entirely comprehensive and only include the main elements that create the character of the region as a tourist destination.

1. Bratislava Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	International
	Long-term perspective	International
Sub-region, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Small Carpathians sub-region (viniculture) - Bratislava - Senec
	Long-term perspective	- Strip along the right bank of the Danube
Type of tourism	Long-term incoming foreign tourism over 50%; intensive domestic tourism as well Stay tourism – short-term in incoming as well as in domestic tourism Long-stay waterside tourism only in the summer time; one-day visits – domestic as well as foreign tourism. Transit	
Forms of tourism	- Sightseeing tourism - Business tourism - Summer waterside stays	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Discovering cultural heritage – Business tourism - Congress/conference tourism – Visiting cultural and sport events – Stays/recreation near water – Water sports – Boat sports and water tourism - Cycle tourism	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	10 863
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	9,3
	Total number of guests	576 924
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	53,5
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	18,2
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	25,2
	Total number of overnights	1 189 810
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	55,7
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (%)	10,3
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	14,8
	Average number of overnights in total	2,1

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region is, thanks to Bratislava, the most popular Slovak destination for foreign tourism. As far as the number of overnight stays is concerned, the Bratislava region is the second best behind the Tatra region, the reason being that the Bratislava region is mainly visited for a short period of time.

In the near future, the Bratislava region will at least hold on to or slightly strengthen its position. Despite the absolute increase in the performance of this region, in a long term perspective its share on the performance of the Slovak Republic will fall, as a result of the gradually more significant promotion of other Slovak regions on foreign markets. The region has all the prerequisites to offer competitive services in the individual areas of business and sightseeing tourism, in both cases in combination with attractive additional activities. Bratislava and the surroundings as Bratislava's background create conditions for achieving this aim, whereby its function and importance will gradually grow.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Bratislava, Pezinok, Modra, Senec, Svätý Jur
- Places with cultural sights: Bratislava (Devín, Rusovce), Svätý Jur, Pezinok, Častá-Červený Kameň, Bernolákovo
- Places with cultural and social events: Bratislava, Devín, Rusovce, Pezinok, Modra, Senec, Stupava, Svätý Jur, Pezinok
- Places with natural attractions: : Devínska brána, Danube stream
- Recreational areas: Small Carpathians, Hrušovská vodná zdrž dam,
- Tourist attractions: Harmónia – Piesky, Senec – Slnčné jazerá lakes, Čunovo, Zlaté piesky, Draždiak, Železná Studnička – Kamzík

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure;
Construction of the Bratislava D4 motorway (D2 Jarovce) – Austria;
Construction of new bridges across the Danube and Moravia,
Modernisation of the Bratislava – Žilina railway track to cater for speeds of 160 km per hour.
Increase in passenger transport on the Danube –
Development of the Bratislava passenger port,
Development of Bratislava airport – connection to Vienna airport – Schwechat (Austria)
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system):
Sewerage system: Malacky, Senec

Environmental impact

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Bratislava city districts: Jarovce, Rusovce, Čunovo (water source), Ružinov, Podunajské Biskupice (protected water management area), in the territory of the Senec district (protected water management area)
- Anticipated decrease in air pollution in the territory of Bratislava (districts of Bratislava I – V); in the territory of the Senec district (Rovinka)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Bratislava I – III, V, Malacky, Senec

2. Danube Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Supra-regional
	Long-term perspective	National
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Malý Žitný ostrov area, Gabčíkovo waterworks , linkage to Szigetköz in Hungary - Dunajská Streda - Veľký Meder - Štúrovo with linkage to Esztergom
	Long-term perspective	
Type of tourism	Intensive domestic tourism In the summer time incoming foreign tourism mainly from the Czech Republic and Hungary. Long-stay tourism - in the summer time, otherwise short-stays and scores of one-day visits	
Forms of tourism	Summer waterside tourism, water sports Summer thermal waterside stays Sightseeing tourism – historical heritage	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Waterside stays / recreation– Water Sports – Water tourism / boat sports – Thermal waterside stays / recreation – Cycle tourism – Rural tourism – Sightseeing tourism	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	2 275
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,0
	Total number of visitors	53 254

	Share of foreign guests (in %)	36,8
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	1,7
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic(in %)	1,6
	Total number of overnights	133 011
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	44,0
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	1,1
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	1,3
	Average number of overnights in total	2,5

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region is popular mainly among less solvent clients as a cheap holiday destination. As far as foreign tourists are concerned, only holiday makers from the Czech Republic with a tight holiday budget and guests from neighbouring Hungary - often due to their ethnic links - come to visit this region. The low share of the bed capacity of the Slovak Republic and its low utilisation are put down to having only one short season.

The region has all the prerequisites for improving its position on the market. The area along the Danube (and its immediate surroundings), where international tourism has been developing in recent years, should be used for this purpose. The second possibility is presented by thermal water sources. However, it is necessary to build facilities that, in terms of the quality of their services, equal the standards of neighbouring Hungary. In such a case it will be possible to attract a more solvent client base compared to that held at present. The summer season will be from a long-term point of view dominant for this region.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Šamorín, Dunajská Streda, Veľký Meder, Komárno, Štúrovo
- Places with cultural sights: Komárno, Šamorín, Bítňa, Iža
- Thermal swimming pools Dunajská Streda, Veľký Meder, Topoľníky, Gabčíkovo, Komárno, Patince, Podhájska, Štúrovo – Vadaš
- Places with cultural and social events: Komárno, Štúrovo, Šamorín
- Places with natural sights: Danube floodplains, Čičov dead river channel
- Recreational areas: streams of Danube and Little Danube (Malý Dunaj)
- Tourist attractions: Madarás, Jahodná, Kováčov and thermal swimming pools

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure,
Construction of the N-S high capacity 4-lane road (Nitra – Nové Zámky) – Komárno – (H)
Perspectively, construction of the R7 expressway (Bratislava) – Dunajská Streda – (Nové Zámky)
Construction of new bridges across the Danube;
Increase of passenger transport on the Danube,
Making the Váh river navigable in the scope of Váh Water Way
- Technical Infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system)
Sewerage system: Dunajská Streda, Komárno, Nové Zámky

Environmental impact

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of the Dunajská Streda district (protected water management area); in the territory of the Nové Zámky district (water source)
- Anticipated decrease in air pollution in the territory of the Senec district (Hamuliakovo, Kalinkovo)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment: Dunajská Streda, Komárno, Nové Zámky

3. Záhorie Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Regional
	Long-term perspective	Supra-regional
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Šaštín, pilgrimage point and swimming
	Long-term perspective	- Skalica (viniculture), linkage to Slovácko region in the Czech Republic
Type of tourism	Domestic tourism dominates Incoming foreign tourism from the Czech Republic; Short stays and stop off visits prevail Long stays only in Smrdáky Spa	
Forms of tourism	- Spa treatment tourism - Summer waterside stays - Rural tourism – cottage stays around Bratislava with plenty of weekend houses and cottages.	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Thermal waterside stays - Water tourism / boat sports - Cycle tourism	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	2 504
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,1
	Total number of guests	58 749
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	31,8
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	1,8
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	1,5
	Total number of overnights	242 642
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	31,5
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	2,1
	Share in the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	1,7
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	4,1

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The position of the region is currently below average. The region is used mainly as a recreational area for people from Bratislava, who come to stay in their own weekend houses at weekends and in the summer time mainly for waterside stays.

The region has a great geographical position (close to Bratislava, Austria and the Czech Republic) to be able to make use of its potential and in the longer perspective to attract the guests and visitors from a greater part of Slovakia as well as from neighbouring foreign regions.

Important locations

- Urban locations: : Malacky, Skalica, Holíč, Senica, Brezová pod Bradlom
- Places with cultural sights: Skalica, Holíč, Šaštín, Bradlo, Plavecký Peter, Veľké Leváre, Branč – castle, Plavecký Hrad castle, Sobotište, Brezová pod Bradlom
- Spa Resorts: Smrdáky Spa
- Recreational area: Small Carpathians, Bory
- Tourist attractions: Zlatnícka dolina, Šaštín – Gazarka, Kunov, Tomky, Kamenný Mlyn, Košariská

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure;
Construction of new bridges across the Morava river;
Construction of the water way (channel) Danube – Moravia – (Czech Republic) branching off to Austria.

- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage)
Sewerage system: Malacky, Senica

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Malacky (water source)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Malacky, Senica, Skalica

4. Lower Považie Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Supra-regional	
	Long-term perspective	National	
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Piešťany and surroundings (spa, Sĺňava lake) – International importance - Trnava	
	Long-term perspective	- Kráľová pri Váhu - Small Carpathians subregion – central	
Type of tourism	Region as a whole – strong domestic tourism with a substantial (approx. 40%) share of incoming foreign tourism that is influenced by the potential of Piešťany subregion; Piešťany subregion – substantial incoming foreign tourism, approx. 65% of the overall number of overnights of the subregion are made up by foreign visitors, in Piešťany mainly long stays aimed at treatment and recreation, in other parts of the region mainly short-stays, Substantial stop-off and transit visits		
Forms of tourism	- Spa tourism aimed at treatment – Summer waterside stays and thermal water – Business tourism - Sightseeing tourism – historical heritage		
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Spa stay - Thermal waterside stays - Water sports - Discovering cultural heritage		
Position on the Slovak market		Region	Subregion
	Number of beds	7 789	5 161
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	6,6	4,4
	Total number of guests	197 914	111 299
	Total number of foreign guests	75 233	54 985
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	38,0	49,4
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	6,2	3,5
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	6,1	4,5
	Total number of overnights	1 076 043	843 816
	A number of overnights of foreign guests	600 622	544 787
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	55,8	64,5
	Share of the number of overnights in Slovakia in total (in %)	9,3	7,5
	Share in the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in Slovakia (in %)	13,4	12,4
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	5,4	7,6
	Average number of overnights of foreign guests	8,0	9,9

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region takes a dominant position concerning the long stays in relation to the domestic guests and even stronger one to the foreign guests. The share of this region in the bed capacity of the Slovak Republic comprises 6.6%, however in the number of overnights spent by domestic tourists it is 9.3% and in the number of foreign tourists as many as 13.4%. Of the number of overnights spent by foreign tourists in Slovakia, one eighth takes place in this region, with Piešťany taking up the highest share.

If we do not consider Piešťany, the remaining part of the region is in terms of tourism less visited. This region, as well as Piešťany itself, can substantially improve its position and in particular its offer.

- **Important locations**
- Urban locations: Trnava, Piešťany, Hlohovec, Galanta, Šaľa, Sered', Vrbové
- Places with cultural sights: Trnava, Hlohovec, Smolenice, Dolná Krupá, Moravany nad Váhom, Ducové
- Spa Resorts: Piešťany
- Thermal swimming pools: Vincov Les forest, Horné Saliby, Sĺňava lake
- Places with cultural and social events:: Trnava, Piešťany, Hlohovec
- Places with natural sights:: Smolenice – Driny
- Recreational areas: Small Carpathians, Inovecké vrchy mountains, perspectively Kráľová na Váhu
- Tourist attractions: Jahodník, Sĺňava, Bukovec, Bezovec

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure;
Modernisation of the railway track Bratislava – Žilina to cater for speeds of 160 km per hour,
Making the Váh river navigable in the scope of Váh Water Way
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage);
Public water supply system: Trnava,
Sewerage system: Galanta, Hlohovec, Piešťany, Šaľa

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of the Piešťany district (source of thermal water)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Galanta, Hlohovec, Šaľa

5. Central Považie Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	National
	Long-term perspective	National
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Trenčín – Trenčianske Teplice (Spa and town with many historical sights) of international importance
	Long-term perspective	- Subregion – scattered settlements under Javorina - Beckov location, Zelená voda (castle, lake)
Type of tourism	Region as a whole – strong domestic tourism with 28% share of incoming foreign tourism, which is substantially affected by the potential of the Trenčín subregion – Trenčianske Teplice. In this subregion alone, this share amounts to 33%. Long stays in spa aimed at treatment and recreation; Short – stays, One day visits	
Forms of tourism	- Spa treatment tourism - Sightseeing tourism (discovering cultural heritage, local traditions, attendance of notable cultural events, museums, cultural facilities) – Business tourism (business trips, congresses, conferences, fairs and exhibitions)	
	- Rural tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Stay/recreation in spas – Forest/mountain area stays- Hiking	
	- Cycle tourism – Countryside holidays – Discovering cultural heritage	

Position on the Slovak market		Region	Subregion
	Number of beds	4 857	2 848
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	4,2	2,3
	Total number of guests	122 810	83 021
	Number of foreign guests	34 758	27 417
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	28,3	33,0
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	3,9	2,6
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,8	2,2
	Total number of overnights	568 016	455 482
	Number of overnights of foreign guests	179 917	153 273
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	4,9	3,9
	Share in the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in SR (in %)	4,0	3,4
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	4,6	5,5

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

In the mid-term perspective, the position of region on the market strongly depends on the Trenčianske Teplice subregion; however, if this subregion fails to improve the quality of its offer, its position on the spa market could be weakened.

In the distant future, this "undistinguished" region can create a manifold offer of services which will be competitive on the national market and to some extent on the Czech market and it can also profit from a strong transit. The good shape of the environment is an advantage of this region.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Trenčín, Nové Mesto nad Váhom, Myjava, Dubnica
- Places with cultural sights: Trenčín (municipal zone of cultural monuments), Beckov, Čachtice, Vršatec, Pruské
- Spa Resorts: Trenčianske Teplice
- Recreational areas: Biele Karpaty mountains, Strážovské vrchy mountains, Inovecké vrchy mountains
- Tourist attractions: : Javorina – Dubník, Zelená Voda, Kálnica, Soblahov, Mojtn

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure –
Completion of the D1 motorway section (Beluša) - Pov.Bystrica – (Žilina);
Construction of the R2 expressway (CZ) – Drietoma – Trenčín – (Žiar n / Hronom);
Construction of the R6 expressway (ČR) – Lysá p. Makytou – Púchov – Ladce – D1 motorway;
Modernisation of the railway track Bratislava – Žilina to cater for the speeds of 160 km per hour,
Making the Váh river navigable in the scope of Váh Water Way
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
Public water supply system: Púchov;
Sewerage system: Myjava, Nové Mesto nad Váhom, Púchov

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of districts Nové Mesto nad Váhom, Ilava, Púchov (protected water management area), Nové Mesto nad Váhom (water source), Ilava district (water source)

6. Nitra Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Supra-regional
	Long-term perspective	National
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Nitra - Podhájska thermal water swimming pool
	Long-term perspective	Topoľčianky and surroundings
Type of tourism	Predominantly domestic tourism, lower share of incoming foreign tourism; Short-stay tourism To a smaller extent long stays by water in the summer time	
Forms of tourism	- Sightseeing tourism (discovering cultural heritage, local traditions, attendance at notable events) - Religious tourism , - Business tourism - Summer waterside stays	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Stay / recreation by thermal water, water sports - Stay / recreation by thermal water - Discovering cultural heritage	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	6 092
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	5,2
	Total number of guests	148 496
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	30,1
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	4,7
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	3,6
	Total number of overnights	445 252
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	29,1
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	3,8
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,9
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	3,0

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region is in terms of its performance slightly under the level of its share of the capacities on the overall Slovak offer. The region ranks averagely in terms of capacity, slightly below average in terms of total performance, and even worse in terms of incoming foreign tourism.

It is necessary to create at least one destination with a strong image, in order to draw attention to the whole region. In the future, historical heritage, thermal waters and organisation of exhibitions could be the main pillars of tourism development. A welcomed adjustment could be stays for hunters and horse lovers.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Nitra, Levice, Zlaté Moravce
- Places with cultural sights: Topoľčianky (chateaux, bison farm, racing stables), Želiezovce, Kostolany pod Trábečom, rock dwellings of Brhlovce, Arboretum Mlyňany, Mojmírovce
- Thermal swimming pools Levice, Santovka, Podhájska, Poľný Kesov and water surface Branš-Ivanka, Lipovina
- Recreational area: Trábečské vrchy mountains, Inovecké vrchy mountains, Pohronský Inovec, Hron river
- Tourist attractions: thermal swimming pools Levice, Santovka and Podhájska, Poľný Kesov, Lipovina, Remitáž, Komoča, Uhliská, Obice

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure
Construction of N–S high capacity 4-lane road (D1 – Hlohovec) – Nitra – (Nové Zámky – Komárno – Hungary)

Completion of the E-W R1 expressway Nitra – Zlaté Moravce – (Žarnovica – Žiar nad Hronom – Zvolen);
 Perspectively construction of the R7 expressway (Dunajská Streda) – Nové Zámky – (Veľký Krtíš)

- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
 Public water supply system: Levice;
 Sewerage system: Levice, Nové Zámky, Zlaté Moravce

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Nitra and Nové Zámky districts (water source) and in the territory of Levice district (therapeutic water source)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Nové Zámky

7. Upper Nitra Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Supra-regional
	Long-term perspective	National
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	Bojnice and surroundings (spa)
	Long-term perspective	
Type of tourism	Mainly domestic tourism, incoming foreign tourism mainly in Bojnice Spa Stay tourism – higher number of long stays than short stays Stop-off domestic visits	
Forms of tourism	- Spa treatment tourism - Sightseeing tourism (discovering cultural heritage) - Relaxing countryside stays – Winter tourism – skiing	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Stay/recreation by thermal or mineralised water - Stay in the forest/mountain area - Hiking	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	4 047
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	3,4
	Total number of guests	84 215
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	20,2
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	2,6
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic(in %)	1,4
	Total number of overnights	386 500
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	28,1
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	3,2
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,4
	Average number of overnights in total	4,6

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region does not reach the average as far as its capacity is concerned and its performance indicators are even a bit lower. Even though nearly all kinds of attractions for tourists can be found in the region (although not of the highest standard) the achieved level of tourism does not reflect this. The tourism in the region is “pulled” mainly by Bojnice. Bojnice Spa attracts also foreign guests and substantially increases the number of overnights. Moreover, Bojnice with its castle makes the public aware of this region.

If the region wants to become more successful on the tourism market, it will also be necessary to start developing other elements of its potential. First of all, the mountain tourism in both of its forms as well as the thermal waters which represent an added value to stays in the mountains.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Prievidza, Partizánske, Topoľčany
- Places with cultural sights: Bojnice, Prievidza, Partizánske, Brodzany, Veľké Uherce, Uhrovec, Oponice, Topoľčany, Nitrianske Pravno
- Spa Resorts: Bojnice
- Thermal swimming pools Bojnice, Chalmová, Bánovce nad Bebravou, Malé Bielice
- Recreational areas: Inovecké vrchy mountains, Strážovské vrchy mountains, Vtáčnik
- Tourist attractions: Chalmová thermal swimming pools, Bánovce nad Bebravou thermal swimming pool, Nitrianske Rudno, Remata, Duchonka, Jankov vršok hill

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure;
Construction of the R2 expressway (Trenčín) - Bánovce n / Bebravou – Prievidza – (Žiar nad Hronom);
Construction of N–S high capacity 4-lane road Prievidza – Topoľčany – (Nitra)
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
Sewerage system: Bánovce nad Bebravou, Topoľčany

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Prievidza region (therapeutic water source)
- Anticipated reduction of air pollution in the whole territory of Prievidza district
- Anticipated increase in quality of the environment – Prievidza

8. Northern Považie Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective		
	Long-term perspective		
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective		
	Long-term perspective		
	International		
Type of tourism	- Subregion Malá Fatra with Vrátna dolina valley – Žilina Town - Rajec, Rajecké Teplice, - Veľká Rača (ski centre) - Subregion with scattered settlements under the Javorníky mountains with a link to the Czech Republic - Subregion Upper and Central Kysuce - Nosická priehrada dam (Nimnica Spa)		
	Predominantly domestic tourism Significant share of incoming foreign tourism Long-stay tourism Short-stay tourism; Many one-day visits		
Forms of tourism	- Winter tourism in mountains – Summer stay in mountains – Summer thermal waterside stays – Spa treatment tourism and recreation - Sightseeing tourism - Business tourism		
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Forest / mountain area stays - Hiking - Down-hill skiing - Countryside stays - Stay / recreation by thermal water - Stay / recreation by thermal water, water sports - Discovering cultural heritage		
Position on the Slovak market			Žilina (district)
	Region		
	Number of beds		7 223
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)		3 662
	6,1		3,1
	Total number of guests		176 336
			111 784

	Number of foreign guests	60 526	39 357
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	34,3	35,2
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	5,6	3,5
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	4,9	3,2
	Total number of overnights	607 541	360 406
	Number of overnights of foreign guests	186 235	122 512
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	30,7	34,0
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	5,2	3,2
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	4,2	2,8
	Average number of overnights in total	3,5	3,2

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region has a great potential for further development of tourism with involving of a broader territory than by now. The area surrounding Žilina, with the most attractive part of Malá Fatra and Rajecké teplice spa, gets the credit for the present position of the region on the market. Should its position on the market be upheld it is necessary (even in this most attractive part) to concentrate on the offer of services in order to keep, or not to worsen the structure of the customer base.

Besides this, it is also necessary to make a greater use of other parts of the region in order to transform the high potential in real development and performance of the tourism.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Žilina, Považská Bystrica, Čadca, Bytča
- Places with cultural sights: Žilina, Budatín, Strečno, Čičmany, Rajec, Lietava, Bytča, Súľovský hrad castle, Strečno, forest railway (Museum of Kysuce Village) in Vychylovka
- Spa resorts: Rajecké Teplice, Nimnica
- Thermal swimming pools Rajec, Rajecké Teplice, Stráňavy
- Recreational areas: Javorníky, Západné Beskydy, Strážovské vrchy mountains, Malá Fatra, Nosice lake, Hričov, Žilina
- Tourist attractions: Manínska úžina canyon, Súľov, Čertov, Podjavorník, Terchová – Vrátna, Pod Jedľovinou, Čičmany, Javorinka, Veľká Rača, Bumbálka, Kasárne, Skalité, Rajecká Lesná, Makov, Skalité, Javorníky

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure
Construction of the D1 motorway section (Beluša – Pov. Bystrica) – Žilina – (Martin);
Construction of the R5 expressway (Poland) – Svrčinovec – Čadca – Žilina (D3 motorway);
Modernisation of the railway track Bratislava – Žilina for the speed 160 km per hour;
Making the Váh river navigable in the scope of Váh Water Way
- Technical infrastructure (water system supply, sewerage system);
Public water supply system: Bytča, Čadca, Púchov;
Sewerage system: Bytča, Čadca, Kys. Nové Mesto, Púchov

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of districts Bytča, Čadca, Kysucké Nové Mesto, Považská Bystrica, Púchov (protected water management area), in the territory of districts Čadca, Považská Bystrica, Púchov, Žilina (water source), Považská Bystrica, Púchov, Žilina (therapeutic water source), Čadca (water stream)
- Anticipated reduction of air pollution in the territory of Žilina district (Lietavská Lúčka, Žilina)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Kysucké Nové Mesto, Žilina

9. Turčiansky Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	National
	Long-term perspective	International
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Martin and Martinské Hole - Turčianske Teplice (spa)
	Long-term perspective	
Type of tourism	Predominantly domestic tourism; important share of incoming foreign tourism (approx. 30%); long-term stay tourism; short-term stay tourism	
Forms of tourism	- Winter stay in mountains – skiing including ski tourism – summer stay in mountains – Summer thermal waterside area stays – Spa therapy tourism - Sightseeing tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Forest / mountain area stays - Hiking – Down-hill skiing - Thermal waterside stays / recreation – Ski tourism - Countryside stays - Discovering cultural heritage	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	3 314
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2.8
	Total number of guests	80 087
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	2.5
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2.0
	Total number of overnights	357 216
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	23.4
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	3.1
	Share in the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	1.9
	Average number of overnights in total	4.5

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region has a rather low accommodation capacity but its usage is above the national level and there is no doubt that this is thanks to the Turčianske Teplice spa. But the region currently makes only partial use of its potential. Opportunities for the further development of the region may lay in the territory encompass by Malá and Veľká Fatra mountain range which offers superb slopes for down-hill skiing and splendid valleys and ridges for hiking. The combination of this magnificent landscape and therapeutic and thermal water provides the opportunity of a highly attractive offer.

In the long-term perspective, we may expect increased importance from this touristic region.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Martin (monuments in the city, The open-air Slovak village Museum)

- Places with cultural sites : Kláštor pod Znievom, Mošovce, Diviaky, Slovenské Pravno, Necpaly, Sklabinský Podzámok
- Spa resorts: Turčianske Teplice
- Thermal swimming pools: Turčianske Teplice, Mošovce
- Recreational areas: Malá Fatra, Veľká Fatra
- Tourist attractions: Trusálová, Martinské Hole, Podstráne, Valčianska dolina valley, Mošovce – Drienok, Gaderská dolina valley – entrance, Čremošné, Jasenská dolina valley, Valčianska Dolina valley, Turany, Horný Turček Turčianske Kľačany

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure:
Construction of the D1 motorway in the section (Žilina) – Martin – (Ružomberok);
Construction of the R3 expressway - (Kremnica/B.Bystrica) – Martin – (Kraľovany – Dolný Kubín)
- Technical infrastructure - (water supply system, sewerage system)
Sewerage system: Turč. Teplice

Environmental impacts

Possible increase in the level of protection of water resources and water areas in the territory of Martin district (protected water management area, water source, therapeutic water source) and Turčianske Teplice district (therapeutic water source)

10. Orava Region Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	National
	Long-term perspective	International
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Subregion Roháče - Oravská priehrada dam - Oravský Podzámok (castle)
	Long-term perspective	- Subregion: Oravská Magura
Type of tourism	Approximately balanced share of domestic and incoming foreign tourism Long-stay tourism Short-stay tourism; Frequent one-day visits – particularly from Poland	
Forms of tourism	- Winter stays in the mountains - skiing including skiing tourism – Summer stays in mountains, hiking – Summer waterside stays, water sports – Sightseeing tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Forest / mountain area stays – Waterside stays, water sports - Hiking - Down-hill skiing and skiing tourism – Thermal waterside stays – Countryside stays – Discovering cultural heritage	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	4 774
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	4,0
	Total number of guests	78 890
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	53,2
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	2,5

	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	3,4
	Total number of overnights	283 250
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	53,5
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	2,4
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	3,4
	Average number of overnights spent by guests in total	3,6

Considering a high share of private accommodation, the actual performance of this region is much higher than as is represented by currently available data. A high share of foreign tourists from Poland with a demand for stays in the mountains indicates further possibilities resulting from the region's location on the frontiers with Poland

- The region has also conditions to allure client base from foreign markets. Orava offers excellent possibilities for development of mountain, winter, summer tourism also outside strictly protected areas. Combined offer of water sports, thermal water, interesting historic sights and picturesque landscape predetermines the region to achieve the international relevance. Its share and position on the market will increase provided that tourism development is professionally managed.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Dolný Kubín, Tvrdošín
- Places with cultural sights: Dolný Kubín, Oravský Podzámok, Leštiny, Dolný Kubín, Tvrdošín, Trstená, Podbieľ, Zuberec (The Open-air Museum of Orava Village)
- Recreational areas: Západné Beskydy, Oravská Magura, Malá Fatra, Západné Tatry – Roháče, Chočské vrchy mountains, Oravská priehrada dam
- Tourist attractions: Malá Lučivná, Kubínska Hoľa, Zuberec municipality with tourist bases, Oravice, Oravská priehrada dam (Ústie, Stará hora, Slanická osada, Vojenské), Slaná voda, Oravská Lesná, Zázrivá,

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure:
Construction of the R3 expressway (Martin) – Kraľovany – Dolný Kubín – Trstená – (Poland);
Connection of Orava and Kysuce (Oravská Lesná – Nová Bystrica)
- Technical infrastructure (water system supply, sewerage system):
Public water supply system: Námestovo;
Sewerage system: Námestovo

Environmental impacts

There are no major environmental impacts in the region.

11. Liptov Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	International
	Long-term perspective	International
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Low Tatras, Ďumbier part – north - Subregion Liptovská Mara (water reservoir) - Malinô – Vlkolínec (skiing, UNESCO heritage sight)
	Long-term perspective	- Subregion West Tatras – south

Type of tourism	Incoming foreign tourism – significant Domestic tourism - significant Long-stay tourism Short-stay tourism, One-day visits	
Forms of tourism	- - Winter stay - down-hill skiing and skiing tourism – Summer thermal waterside stays, lakes, water sports – Summer stay in mountains – hiking – Rural tourism – Sightseeing tourism – cultural heritage and unique nature formations – Therapeutic spa stays – Business tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Down-hill skiing and ski tourism – Summer stays in mountains – hiking – Water sports, boat sports – Thermal waterside stays – Discovering cultural heritage - Cave visits– Countryside stays / rural tourism	
Position on the Slovak market	number of beds	10 109
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	8,7
	Total number of guests	243 485
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	49,2
	Share in the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	7,7
	Share in the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	9,8
	Total number of overnights	1 010 243
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	47,3
	Share in the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	8,8
	Share in the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	10,7
	Average number of overnights spent by guests in total	4,2

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region represents the widest and the most universal offer for tourism within Slovakia. The territory offers possibilities for almost all tourist activities on a very high level and some at the very top level. The advantage of the region lies in its location among other highly attractive regions. The performance of the region is higher than its share in capacities and is the highest in relation to the number of overnights spent by foreign guests. The potential of existing resorts has not yet been exhausted. Moreover, there are opportunities to open new, highly perspective locations in the region (e.g. Nižná and Vyšná Boca). It is possible to make better use of the West Tatras without new resorts having to be established because the West Tatras may contribute to a change in the image of the entire region. Over the last few years, the progress of the Jasná pod Chopkom skiing resort has dampened although this resort has the most suitable conditions for down-hill skiing in Central Europe (with the exception of Austria). The region meets all the conditions required to break through on the international market more intensively.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Liptovský Mikuláš, Ružomberok (Gallery of Ľ. Fulla)
- Places with cultural sites, attractions, events: Vlkolínec (UNESCO), Liptovský
- Ján, Hybe, Svätý Kríž, Liptovský Hrádok, nature attractions – caves in Demänovská dolina valley, Pribylina Liptov Village Museum), Východná (international folk festival), tradition of sheepherding and production of cheese (bryndza)
- Spa resorts: Lúčky, Korytnica, Liptovský Ján

- Thermal swimming pools: Liptovský Mikuláš, Bešeňová, Liptovský Ján
- Recreational areas: Chočské pohorie, the West Tatras, Veľká Fatra, the Low Tatras, Liptovská Mara
- Tourist attractions:: Ľubochňa, Ružomberok (Ski park), Smrekovica, Trlenská dolina, Bešeňová, Liptovský Trnovec, Liptovský Mikuláš aquapark, Žiarska dolina valley, Račková dolina valley, Podbanské, Demänovská dolina valley (Jasná, Záhradky, caves), Opalisko, Vyšná Boca – Čertovica, Nižná Boca, Jánska dolina valley, Závažná Poruba,

Infrastructure requirements

- Completion of the transport infrastructure
completion of the D1 motorway in the segment: (Ružomberok) - Liptovský Mikuláš – (Poprad)
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system)
Sewerage system: Liptovský Mikuláš

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Liptovský Mikuláš and Ružomberok – (protected water management area)
- Expected reduction of air pollution in the territory of Ružomberok district (Biely Potok, Likavka, Lipt. Štiavnica, Lisková, Ludrová, Martinček, Ružomberok, Sliače, Štiavnička)
- Expected increase in the quality of the environment – Ružomberok

12. Ipeľ Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective		Regional
	Long-term perspective		Supra-regional
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective		- Dudince, spa of national relevance
	Long-term perspective		- Dolná Strehová, thermal swimming pool
Type of tourism	Domestic tourism Incoming foreign tourism in a smaller extent Long-term stay tourism, One-day visits		
Forms of tourism	- Spa therapy tourism and recreation - Summer thermal waterside stays - Summer countryside stays		
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Spa stays - Stay / recreation by thermal water - Forest / mountain area stays - Countryside stays		
Position on the Slovak market	Region		Krupina (district)
	Number of beds	3 760	1 498
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	3,2	1,2
	Total number of guests	62 381	30 806
	Total number of foreign guests	19 701	13 632
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	31,6	44,3
	Share in the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	2,0	1,0
	Share in the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	1,6	1,1
	Total number of overnights	422 772	341 115
	Number of overnights spent by foreign guests	156 456	141 177

	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	37,0	41,4
	Share in the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	3,6	3,0
	Share in the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	3,5	3,2
	Average number of overnights in total	6,8	11,0

Although this region is not of high priority due to lacking potential and current state of tourism there, it is possible to consider development of tourism and its benefit in relation to local and regional economy. The present days are only little favourable. Little use is made of small capacities with the exception of Dudince spa. This location with less than 40% share in the region capacities participate in the region performance by more than 80%.

Besides spas and thermal areas, tourism development in the region may be based on rural tourism, offer of peaceful locations, local traditions, well-preserved atmosphere, viniculture and gastronomy. In terms of weekend stays and short stays, it is mainly neighbouring Hungary which seems to be a perspective market.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Krupina, Lučenec
- Places with cultural sights: reservation of cultural monuments Sebechleby, Šahy, Modrý Kameň castle, Fiľakovo castle, Čabrad' castle, Divín castle
- Spa resorts: Dudince
- Recreational areas: Krupinská vrchovina, Javorie, Cerová vrchovina, Slovenské Rudohorie
- Tourist attractions: spas - Dudince, Dolná Strehová, Vinica, Ružiná, Lúnia – Háj

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure:
Construction of the R2 expressway (Zvolen) – Lučenec – (Rožňava);
Construction of the R3 expressway (MR) – Šahy – Krupina (Zvolen);
prospect of construction of the R7 expressway (Nové Zámky) – Veľký Krtíš – Lučenec;
Construction of new bridges over Ipeľ river
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
Public water supply system: Levice, Lučenec, Poltár, Veľký Krtíš;
Sewerage system: Krupina, Levice, Lučenec, Poltár, Veľký Krtíš

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Levice district (therapeutic water source), Krupina (water stream), Poltár (protected water management area + water reservoir)
- Expected increase in the quality of the environment – Veľký Krtíš

13. Gemer Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Supra-regional
	Long-term perspective	National
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Location: Domica cave stretching to Aggtelek in Hungary - Rožňava and surroundings with attractions
	Long-term perspective	- Slovenský kras carst stretching to Hungary - Muránska planina pain (national park) - Many churches concentrated in the area (with gothic paintings)

Type of tourism	Predominantly domestic tourism Incoming tourism to an important extent Short-term stay tourism; long-term stay tourism in Čiž spa; one-day visits	
Forms of tourism	- Sightseeing tourism - Forest/mountain summer stays area and in the countryside - Spa treatment tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Forest / mountain area stays - Hiking - Cycle tourism – visits to caves and speleology - Countryside stays - Discovering cultural heritage	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	2 241
	Share of bed capacity in SR (in %)	1,9
	Total number of guests	48 247
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	24,6
	Share in the number of guests in SR in total (in %)	1,5
	Share in the number of foreign guests in SR (in %)	1,0
	Total number of overnights	172 577
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in SR (in %)	19,7
	Share in the number of overnights in SR in total (in %)	1,5
	Share in the number of nights spent by foreign guests in SR (in %)	0,8
	Average number of nights spent by guests in total	3,6

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region currently makes very little use of its tourism potential. It is greatly lagging behind in its resources in terms of capacity and performance. The advantage of the region is the great variety of what it has to offer and the high appeal of its numerous attractions – natural environment, historical sights, caves. The linkage to the neighbouring Spiš, which is also insufficiently developed at the moment, is of interest regarding the formation of an offer. The Gemer region can in due course improve its position on the market. In the long-term perspective it will become a region of national importance with significant share of foreign tourists.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Rožňava (mining traditions around Rožňava), Rimavská Sobota, Revúca
- Places with cultural sights, natural attractions: Chyžné, Jelšava, Muráň, Šivetice, Hajnačka, Betliar, Krásna Hôrka, Štítnik, Koceľovce, Plešivec, Caves - Dómica cave, Ochtinská Aragonit cave and Gombasecká cave; Zádielska valley; churches – Rimavské Brezovo, Kyjatice, Malé Teriakovce, Žíp
- Spa Resorts: Čiž
- Recreational area: Slovak Rudohorie mountains, Cerová vrchovina highland, Slovenský kras carst;
- Tourist attractions: Kurinec, Teplý vrch lake, Tornaľa – Králik, Bánovo, Muránska Huta, Hrádok

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure
construction of the R2 expressway (Lučenec) – Rožňava – (Košice)
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
Public water supply system: Rimavská Sobota, Rožňava

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Rimavská Sobota district (protected water management area+ water reservoir), Revúca, Rožňava (source of therapeutic water).

- Anticipated reduction of air pollution in the territory of Rimavská Sobota district (Brádno, Hačava, Hnúšťa, Likier, Polom, Rimavská Píla, Rimavské Brezovo, Tisovec), in the territory of Revúca District (Chyžné, Jelšava, Lubeník, Magnezitovce, Mokrú Lúka, Revúcka Lehota)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment - Revúca

14. Upper Hron Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	International
	Long-term perspective	International
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Low Tatras, Ďumbier – south - Town of Banská Bystrica - Donovaly location
	Long-term perspective	- Banská Bystrica and surroundings - Upper Hron – conclusion
Type of tourism	Predominantly domestic tourism Incoming foreign tourism Long-stay tourism Short-stay tourism, One-day visits	
Forms of tourism	- Winter tourism in the mountains – skiing - Summer stays in the mountains – hiking - Sightseeing tourism - Rural tourism – Business tourism - Spa treatment tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Down-hill skiing and ski tourism - Discovering cultural heritage - Forest/mountain area stays - hiking - Visiting caves and speleology - Rural tourism	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	6 770
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	5,8
	Total number of guests	161 359
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	23,4
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	5,1
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	3,1
	Total number of overnights	497 068
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	25,1
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	4,3
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,8
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	3,1

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

This is a typical mountainous region, currently very popular for winter skiing stays in the mountains. So far the region's tourism is less successful during the summer season, which also decreases its performance, the share of which on the national level is lower than that of the capacity of the region. The absence of water areas and thermal springs has a negative impact on the summer season. Therefore, it is necessary to focus on the provision of services and attractions for the summer season.

It is necessary to emphasise, by means of marketing, the uniqueness of the region, such as the combination of mountains with urban and rural sights as well as with sights that are to be found directly in the country in their unique form (mining monuments, mountain railway, medieval water system). All parts of the region are, in terms of transport, easily accessible. The region stands a good chance of becoming a destination of international importance in the near future.

Important locations:

- Urban locations: Banská Bystrica, Brezno
- Places with cultural sights and natural attractions: Banská Bystrica, Hronsek, Slovenská Ľupča, Brezno, Hefpa, Čierny Balog (Čiernohronska železnička railway), Špania dolina Valley (architecture, mining traditions, lace making), Harmanecká and Bystrianska jaskyňa caves
- Spa Resorts: Brusno
- Recreational area: Kremnické vrchy mountains, Low Tatras, Slovak Rudohorie mountains
- Tourist attractions: Králiky – Kordíky, Turecká, Donovaly, Šachtičky, Tále, Krpáčovo, Chopok – south, Mýto pod Ďumbierom, Chvatimech, Šachtičky – Špania dolina valley, Turecká, Valaská, Bystrá, Telgárt, Osrbie biathlon track

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure
Completion of the R3 expressway (Zvolen) – Banská Bystrica – (Turčianske Teplice) – second alternative: development of Sliač Airport
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system)
Sewerage system: Brezno

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Banská Bystrica and Brezno districts (protected water management area + water source) and in the territory of the Brezno district (water reservoir).

15. Pohronie Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Supra-regional
	Long-term perspective	National
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Banská Štiavnica and surroundings (UNESCO sights) of international importance - Zvolen and Spas Sliač, Kováčová - Kremnica and surroundings
	Long-term perspective	- Podpoľanie region
Type of tourism	Domestic tourism Incoming foreign tourism Long-stay tourism Short-stay tourism; One-day visits	
Forms of tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sightseeing tourism- historical heritage ○ Spa treatment tourism ○ Summer waterside stays including thermal water ○ Summer forest /mountain area stays ○ Winter mountain stays ○ Rural tourism 	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	-Discovering historical heritage - Waterside stays/recreation - Thermal waterside stays - Forest/mountain area stays – hiking – Skiing stays - Rural stays	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	6 275
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	5,3
	Total number of guests	145 542
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	21,5
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	4,6
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,5
	Total number of overnights	694 839
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	15,9

	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	6,0
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,5
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	4,8

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region reaches the average level of the Slovak Republic in terms of capacity, it is slightly above average in utilisation of its capacity. However, in relation to its potential, the achieved level of tourism is very low. The tourist potential of the region is of a very favourable composition – mountains with skiing opportunities, cultural sights (not only as solitary sites but also concentrated into two mining cities beautifully located in the countryside) and thermal waters used for therapy and recreation. In spite of the greatly neglected state of the cultural sights, the region will certainly develop into a destination on the national level, with the Štiavnické Vrchy mountains subregion which will reach an international importance. The UNESCO label is a great marketing means for advertising the particular region, as well as others, abroad.

Important locations

- Urban locations: : Banská Štiavnica, Kremnica, Zvolen
- Places with cultural sights: Banská Štiavnica and surroundings (UNESCO, strong mining traditions, mining museum, unique water management system of water reservoirs), Kremnica and surroundings, Svätý Anton, Žarnovica, Nová Baňa, Hronský Beňadik, Vígľaš, Detva, Zvolen, Babiná, Dobrá Niva
- Spa Resorts: Sliač, Kováčová, Sklené Teplice
- Recreation area: Vtáčnik, Kremnické vrchy mountains, Slovenské Rudohorie mountains, Štiavnické vrchy mountains
- Tourists attractions: Skalka – Krahule, Poľana, Hodrušské jazero lake, Richnavské jazero lake, Počúvadlianske jazero lake, Vyhne, water mining reservoirs (tajchy) in the surroundings of Banská Štiavnica, Kováčová thermal swimming pools, Kremnica and Vyhne.

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure
Completion of the E-W R1 expressway (Zlaté Moravce – Žarnovica – Žiar n/Hronom – Zvolen – (Banská Bystrica)
Completion of the R2 expressway (Trenčín) – Žiar n / Hronom – Zvolen – (Lučenec)
Completion of the R3 expressway (Zvolen) – Žiar n / Hronom – Kremnica – (Martin) – 1st alternative
Development of the Sliač Airport

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of the Zvolen district (water source and source of therapeutic water), Detva (water reservoir).
- Anticipated reduction of air pollution in the territory of Žiar nad Hronom district (Dolná Trnávka, Dolná Ždaňa, Hliník nad Hronom, Horná Ždaňa, Ladomerská Vieska, Lehôtka pod Brehmi, Lovča, Lovčica – Trubín, Lutla, Prestavky, Stará Kremnička, Šášovské Podhradie, Žiar nad Hronom)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Žiar nad Hronom

16. Tatras Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	International
	Long-term perspective	International
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- The High Tatras with link to the Polish Tatras - Pieniny with link to Poland - Vyšné Ružbachy, spa resort
	Long-term perspective	- Zamagurie region and the valley of the Poprad river, exceptional landscape with link to Poland
Type of tourism	Intensive domestic and incoming foreign tourism Long-stay tourism Short-stay tourism,	

	One-day visits	
Forms of tourism	- Summer stays in the mountains - Winter mountain stays - skiing - Incentive tourism/congresses and conferences - Spa treatment tourism - Sightseeing tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Forest / mountain area stays - Hiking - Down-hill skiing - Ski tourism - Discovering cultural heritage - Thermal waterside stays	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	17 840
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	15,1
	Total number of guests	540 385
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	44,6
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	17,0
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	19,7
	Total number of overnights	2 259 724
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	42,9
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	19,5
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	21,5
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	4,2

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The Tatras are, without any doubt, our most important tourism region. Even though the region does not offer as broad a scale of attractions as for example Liptov, it is fully dominated by the alpine areas and their attractiveness and uniqueness. Above all this, the region has highly attractive cultural sights, thermal swimming pools, spa resorts which can be successfully promoted in connection to the High Tatras.

The Tatras also dominate in respect of performance. First place in the number of foreign visitors is held by Bratislava, but the highest number of the over night stays is achieved in the Tatras. The resources of the region are not fully exhausted by far, whereby the mountains of Tatras as such may support tourism development in the whole region, where there are great opportunities for development.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Poprad, Kežmarok
- Places with cultural sights: Kežmarok, Poprad, Červený Kláštor, Spišská Belá – Strážky, Veľká Lomnica, Osturňa, Batizovce, Švábovce, Betlanovce Ždiar, Podolíneec, Stará Ľubovňa, Hniezdne
- Spa Resorts: Climate spa resorts High Tatras, Vyšné Ružbachy
- Thermal swimming pools: Vrbov, Vyšné Ružbachy, Poprad, potentially Stará Lesná
- Recreational areas: Western Tatras, High Tatras, Spišská Magura, Pieniny, Ľubovnianske vrchy mountains, Kozie chrbty mountains, Levočské vrchy mountains
- Tourists attractions: Podbanské, Tatranská Štrba, Štrbské Pleso including cross-country skiing track, Smokovce, Tatranská Lomnica, Stará Lesná, alpine bases (lodges), Javorina, Ždiar Village (Strednica a Bachledova dolina valleys), Jezersko, Červený Kláštor, Nová Ľubovňa spa, Lopošná dolina valley, Vernár, Liptovská Teplička.

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure
 Completion of the D1 motorway section (Liptovský Mikuláš) – Poprad – (Levoča)
 Development of Poprad – Tatry Airport;
 Reconstruction of the Tatras electric railway

- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
Public water supply system: Stará Ľubovňa;
Sewerage system: Stará Ľubovňa

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Poprad district (water source + water stream) and the Kežmarok district (water reservoir + water stream)

17. Spiš Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Supra-regional
	Long-term perspective	International
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Slovak Paradise - Concentration of UNESCO sights of international importance - Krompachy – Plejsy – down-hill skiing
	Long-term perspective	
Type of tourism	Predominantly domestic tourism Incoming foreign tourism Summer time long-stay tourism Short-stay tourism, Stop-off visits	
Forms of tourism	- Sightseeing tourism - Summer forest / mountain area stays - Winter stays in the countryside - Rural tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Discovering cultural heritage - Hiking - Forest / mountain area stays - Cycle tourism - Down-hill skiing and ski tourism - Countryside stays	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	2 999
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,5
	Total number of guests	68 204
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	40,1
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	2,1
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,2
	Total number of overnights	205 544
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	43,8
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	1,8
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,0
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	3,0

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The difference between the potential and the achieved level of tourism is currently the highest in this region. The excellent natural conditions of Slovak Paradise and the unique concentration of cultural sights in the setting with beautiful scenery predetermine the future success of this region in the development of tourism. The region still has insufficient (regarding the scope and especially the standard) accommodation capacity as well as of other facilities for tourists. The massive and noticeable social problems are also not beneficial for the development of tourism. Therefore, guests visiting this region are mainly from lower social classes. In perspective, this region has all the conditions to become a destination of international importance.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Spišská Nová Ves, Levoča
- Places with cultural sights: UNESCO sights (Spišské Podhradie – castle, Spišská Kapitula, Žehra), Levoča, Bijacovce, Dravce, Markušovce, Spišská Nová Ves, Gelnica, Smolník
- Recreational areas: Levočské vrchy mountains, Branisko, Slovak Paradise, Spišsko – Gemerský kras carst
- Tourist attractions: Levočské kúpele spa, Slovak Paradise mountains (Podlesok, Čingov), Dedinky – Mlynky, Turzov, Plejsy, end of Ružínska priehrada dam, Palcmanská Maša lake

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure
Construction of the D1 motorway section (Poprad) – Levoča – (Prešov)
- Infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system)
Public water supply system: Gelnica;
Sewerage system: Gelnica

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Levoča district (source of therapeutic water), Spišská Nová Ves, Gelnica (water stream).
- Anticipated reduction of air pollution in the territory Gelnica district (Hrišovce, Kluknava, Richnava); in the territory of Spišská Nová Ves district (Chrast' nad Hornádom, Kaľava, Kolinovce, Krompachy, Markušovce, Matejovce, Olcnava, Rudňany, Spišské Vlachy, Vítkovce, Vojkovce)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Gelnica, Levoča, Spišská Nová Ves

18. Košice Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	National
	Long-term perspective	National
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Košice and surroundings
	Long-term perspective	
Type of tourism	Domestic tourism To a great extent incoming foreign tourism, in particular business tourism Short-stay tourism, One-day visits	
Forms of tourism	- Sightseeing tourism (cultural heritage) – Summer waterside stays and in forest areas – Business tourism - Shopping tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Discovering cultural potential - Waterside stays/recreation - Forest / mountain area stays – hiking - Down-hill skiing	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	3 266
	Share of bed capacity in SR (in %)	2,8
	Total number of guests	139 444
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	28,6
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	4,4
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	3,3
	Total number of overnights	274 440

	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	31,1
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	2,4
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	1,9
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	2,0

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region 'consists' especially of Košice City so far. Košice city is dominated primarily by business tourism – business trips, even though the city itself is sufficiently attractive as a tourist destination; it is used for such purposes only to a small extent. Due to prevailing business stays, the average length of stays is very short; in fact, in comparison to all other regions it is the shortest.

Utilisation of the capacities, which are used mostly during working days, is low too. The attractive locations in the surroundings (natural, cultural and sport) are so far used more by the residents of Košice and the region than by tourists. Despite having underdeveloped "holiday" tourism, Košice and its surroundings have all the prerequisites to become successful as a standard tourist destination in the not too distant future.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Košice
- Spa Resorts: Štós
- Places with cultural sights, natural attractions: sights in Košice, Jasov, Turňa nad Bodvou, Slanec, Svinica, Turnianska Nová Ves, Vyšný and Nižný Medzev, Herľany spout, Jasovská jaskyňa cave
- Recreational areas: Slovenské Rudohorie mountains, Slánske vrchy mountains, Slovenský kras carst (Zádielska dolina valley, Hájska dolina valley, Jasovská planina plain)
- Tourists attractions: Kojšova hoľa, Jahodná, Kavečany, Ružín water reservoir – Košické Hámre, Čaňa, Bukovec, Izra

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure;
Completion of the D1 motorway section (Prešov) – Košice – (Sečovce);
Construction of the R2 expressway (Rožňava) – Košice;
Development of Košice airport
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
Public water supply system: Košice – surroundings;
Sewerage system: Košice- surroundings

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Košice – surroundings district (protected water management area)
- Anticipated reduction of air pollution – for the whole territory of Košice City (Košice I – IV districts), in the territory of Košice – surroundings (Bočiar, Haniska, Sokolany, Veľká Ida)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment -

19. Šariš Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	National
	Long-term perspective	National
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Prešov - town - Bardejov, spa , UNESCO sights of international importance - Drienica Lysá – winter ski resort - Svidník's surroundings with several wooden churches
	Long-term perspective	
Type of tourism	Strong domestic tourism Important share of incoming tourism Long-stay tourism	

	Short-stay tourism Frequent one-day visits	
Forms of tourism	- Spa treatment tourism - Sightseeing tourism - Summer stay in forest/mountain area - Winter stay – ski holidays - Shopping tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Discovering cultural heritage - Spa stay - Forest / mountain area stays with hiking - Winter stays in the mountains – skiing	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	4 800
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	4,1
	Total number of guests	103 978
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	30,7
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	3,3
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,6
	Total number of overnights	514 042
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	25,9
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	4,4
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,7
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	4,9

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The capacities of the region are not too great at the moment but their utilisation, in particular thanks to the Bardejov spa resort, reaches a level that is above average. The remaining part of the region is gradually beginning to make use of its tourism potential. Prešov city centre is interesting. Mountain tourism is gradually becoming more developed, especially in the winter time. The historical heritage, not only the wooden churches but also the truly unique historical buildings and facilities for the mining and processing of salt are also used inadequately. In the near future the region could become successful as a tourist area of national importance. The fact is, that the historical town of Bardejov, as a UNESCO sight, together with the spa resort represent a place of international importance, which should be used for the promotion of the region as a whole.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Prešov, Bardejov
- Places with cultural sights: Bardejov (UNESCO sights, museum in nature), wooden churches, Dukla, Sabinov, Prešov, Kapušany, Veľký Šariš
- Spa Resorts: Bardejov
- Recreational areas: Nízke Beskydy mountains, Ondavská vrchovina upland, Šarišská vrchovina upland, Slánske vrchy mountains, Čergovské pohorie mountain range
- Tourist attractions: Lipovec – Šindliar, Dubovica – Žliabky, Renčičov – Búče, Drienica – Lysá, Regetovka, Sigord, Šarbov

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure; Completion of the D1 motorway section (Levoča) – Prešov – (Košice)
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
Public water supply system: Prešov, Sabinov
Sewerage: Bardejov, Sabinov, Svidník

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Bardejov and Svidník districts (water source + water reservoir)
- Anticipated reduction of air pollution in the territory of Prešov district (Prešov City)

20. Upper Zemplin Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Regional
	Long-term perspective	Supra-regional
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	- Domaša lake – national importance - Sninské fishing lakes
	Long-term perspective	
Type of tourism	Domestic tourism To a smaller extent incoming foreign tourism Long-term stay tourism only during short summer season Short-stay tourism; one-day visits	
Forms of tourism	- Summer waterside stays - Sightseeing tourism - Summer stay in forest/mountain area - Shopping tourism	
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Water sports - Forest / mountain area stays - Sightseeing stays, or roundtrips	
Position on the Slovak market	Number of beds	2 596
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,2
	Total number of guests	33 330
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	27,7
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	1,0
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	0,8
	Total number of overnights	87 409
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	35,5
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	0,8
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	0,7
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	2,6

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

The region is only marginally used for tourism purposes. Even its limited capacities are very little used. The main attraction for summer holidays in the past – the Veľká Domaša lake requires its facilities to be modernised, as well as a solution for the problems with the low water level. Apart from this water area, the untouched forests and tranquil localities, the architecture of wooden churches as well the Warhol museum could be used for tourism purposes as well. Climatic conditions make it possible to operate (where the terrain permits it) smaller or medium ski resorts, which could become commercially successful after the new border crossings to Poland are opened. Despite its remote position away from the crucial markets, it is possible for tourism to be developed that will attract tourists from other parts of Slovakia as well as from the neighbouring countries.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Medzilaborce (unique museum of the Warhol family)
- Places with cultural sights: Hanušovce nad Topľou, wooden churches
- Recreational areas: Nízke Beskydy, Bukovské vrchy mountains – Poloniny, Vihorlat, Domaša lake
- Tourist attractions: Domaša (Poľany, Holčíkovce, Kelča, Valkov, Dobrá), Danová, Sninské fishing lakes

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure;
Construction of the R4 expressway: Prešov – Vyšný Komárnik – (Poland)
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system)

Water supply system - Medzilaborce, Vranov n / Topľou;
Sewerage system: Vranov n / Topľou

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Humenné, Stropkov, Vranov n / Topľou districts (water stream); in the territory of Snina district (water stream and lake)
- Anticipated reduction of air pollution in the territory of Vranov n / Topľou district (Dlhé Klčovo, Kladzany, Kučín, Majerovce, Nižný Hrabovec, Nižný Hrušov, Sedliská, Tovarnianska Polianka, Vranov nad Topľou); Humenné district (Brekov, Hudcovce, Humenné, Topoľovka, Závadka); Michalovce district (Strážske)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Humenné, Michalovce, Vranov nad Topľov.

21. Lower Zemplin Region

Category / relevance	Medium-term perspective	Regional	
	Long-term perspective	Supra-regional	
Subregion, specific location	Medium-term perspective	Zemplínska Šírava – lake with national, potentially even of international importance	
	Long-term perspective	Tokajské vrchy mountains and Zabodrožie, viniculture	
Type of tourism	Predominantly domestic tourism To a significant extent incoming foreign tourism Long-term stay tourism – only seasonal Short-stay tourism, one-day visits		
Forms of tourism	- Summer waterside stays - Sightseeing tourism - Shopping tourism		
Activities with the highest long-term potential	- Water sports -Waterside stays		
	- Sightseeing stays - Viniculture and gastronomy - Possibility of spa stays		
Position on the Slovak market		Region	Michalovce
	Number of facilities for temporary accommodation	69	53
	Number of beds	3 219	2 609
	Share of bed capacity in the Slovak Republic (in %)	2,7	2,2
	Total number of guests	53 950	45 403
	Number of foreign guests	13 038	12 289
	Share of foreign guests (in %)	24,2	27,1
	Share of the number of guests in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	1,7	1,4
	Share of the number of foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	1,1	1,0
	Total number of overnights	164 732	143 876
	A number of overnights spent by foreign guests	41 261	39 577
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests (in %)	25,0	27,5
	Share of the number of overnights in the Slovak Republic in total (in %)	1,4	1,3
	Share of the number of overnights spent by foreign guests in the Slovak Republic (in %)	0,9	0,9
	Average number of overnights of guests in total	3.1	3.2

Anticipated development of the position on the market and competitiveness

At present, Zemplínska Šírava is the place where nearly all tourism related activities of the region take place. The overall standard of services is affected by the momentarily non-satisfactory state of this natural attraction. As far as performance is concerned, the region shows significantly lower shares compared to its share of the accommodation capacity.

The future competitive position and the share of the market can be significantly improved by means of: modernisation and completion of Zemplínska Šírava (including the thermal water swimming pool area), development of the Tokaj region – as a perspective viniculture region, renovation of former spa resorts of Byšta and Sobrance, reconstruction of the selected historical buildings and their utilisation for tourism purposes.

Important locations

- Urban locations: Michalovce, Trebišov
- Places with cultural sights: Michalovce, Trebišov, Leles,
- Recreational attractions: Vihorlat, Slánske vrchy mountains, Zemplínske vrchy mountains, Zemplínska Šírava lake
- Tourist attractions: Zemplínska Šírava (Biela hora recreational resort, Hôrka, Medvedia hora recreational resort, Kaluža, Paľkov), Vinianske jazero lake, Morské oko lake, Byšta

Infrastructure requirements

- Transport infrastructure;
Construction of the D1 motorway section (Košice) – Sečovce – Vyšné Nemecké – (Ukraine);
Construction of the R4 expressway (H)– Milhost' – Košice
- Technical infrastructure (water supply system, sewerage system);
Public water supply system: Michalovce, Sobrance, Trebišov;
sewerage system: Sobrance, Trebišov

Environmental impacts

- Possible increase in the level of protection of water sources and water areas in the territory of Sobrance district (a source of therapeutic water)
- Anticipated reduction of air pollution in the territory of the Michalovce district (Pusté Čemerné, Staré, Voľa)
- Anticipated increase in the quality of the environment – Michalovce, Trebišov